

professional licensure in Nebraska and then a list of those occupations that we have identified that are currently licensed in Nebraska. Essentially, what this is an attempt to do is to identify a concern that I have and I think several other members of the Legislature have had about a tendency to too easily grant licensure regulation onto occupational groups. Frequently an occupational group will come before the body or will ask an individual member for this opportunity to be licensed rather than operating in a free market and the tendency I think is to grant licensure a little bit too easily at times. I don't think that is the case in the recent past but nevertheless it is important that we recognize that before we start seriously talking about introducing bills to license groups or then to pass bills that have been introduced to license groups, they should have a burden of proof placed on them to answer some questions about the need for this action, about the public benefit from licensure and they should have to prove to us the benefit of this action rather than having us be placed with the burden of proof on why they shouldn't be licensed. I think this is a role reversal that says that licensing can be good, can protect the public interest but at the same time it can be overreaching, can be overly bureaucratic and can stifle the free market and free enterprise and so this is an attempt to recognize that there is a need for balance. It is not a binding resolution that says this is the only way it is going to be but it is one that provides some guidelines, and let me tell you my whole intent is to provide you with some questions so that when groups come to you or when individuals come to you, and I know they have come to me, saying, hey, would you introduce this bill for us to grant us licensure, you can say, well, I would like to help you on that. Could you answer the questions in this questionnaire from this resolution and put down that information and it will help me in deciding the value of your request and will help us in preparing that legislation? So over the interim you can use this to your benefit, and then next year, once the bills are introduced if they are introduced, they can be used, these questions can be asked in committees of groups that are wanting to be licensed and there have been several this year and in previous years. Every year we seem to have more groups wanting to be licensed. This is an attempt to provide you with some questions that would be important to be asked of any group. That is it. I quit. Thank you.

SENATOR CULLAN: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, I am glad Senator Wesely has quit. I wish he would have quit just before this resolution. I would urge you not to